

*February 8, 2011*

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) today announced that he will serve as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, which is a subcommittee of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. In this capacity, Congressman McNerney will be the highest ranking Democrat to serve on this important subcommittee.

"I'm honored to serve as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs," said Rep. McNerney. "This subcommittee is responsible for overseeing most benefits for our veterans, such as disability and pension benefits. I'm committed to improving care for the men and women who have served our country and, as ranking member of this important subcommittee I will continue my work in this area."

The Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs is charged with overseeing the process by which the Department of Veterans Affairs provides benefits for veterans, including disability, pension, life insurance and burial benefits. The Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs is also responsible for overseeing the Board of Veterans' Appeals and the Court of Appeals for Veterans' Claims. These bodies review and issue decisions for benefit claims determinations made by local VA offices.

Congressman McNerney has served on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs since 2007. He has made improving care for veterans a central focus of his work in office and is the author of a bill that was signed into law last year that will improve care for veterans who suffer from traumatic brain injuries.